

2012 Spring Turkey

Hunting Regulations and Information
MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION



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Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs of the Missouri Department of Conservation is available to all individuals without regard to their race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. Questions should be directed to the Department of Conservation, PO Box 180, Jefferson City, MO 65102, 573-751-4115 (voice) or 800-735-2966 (TTY), or to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Division of Federal Assistance, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Mail Stop: MBSP-4020, Arlington, VA 22203.

What's New for 2012

- ▶ Hunters with developmental disabilities who have taken a hunter-education course but failed to pass the certification tests now may purchase firearms permits. However, they must carry a physician's statement as proof of their disability and hunt in the immediate presence of a properly licensed hunter age 18 or older who is hunter-education certified.
- ▶ Any member of the U.S. military currently assigned as a patient to a Warrior Transition Brigade, Warrior Transition Unit or a military medical center now may purchase Missouri resident permits regardless of where they live. See Page 5.
- ▶ There are several changes to conservation area regulations and managed turkey hunts. See pages 8–17.

NOTE: According to rule 3 CSR 10-5.216 of the *Wildlife Code*, if you have been convicted of multiple or major violations of the *Wildlife Code* in the past five years, the Conservation Commission may consider suspending or revoking your hunting, trapping and/or fishing privileges regardless of any previous court action. The point system the Commission uses to assess *Wildlife Code* violations is explained at **mdc.mo.gov**.

MCHF Helps You Invest in Your Love of Hunting

Since 1997, thanks to donations from hunters like you, the Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation has supported dozens of women and youth hunting events, disabled-hunter blinds, wildlife habitat improvements and Archery in the Schools programs. **With your help, we can do even more.** Consider making a planned gift or other donation, or purchasing a Conservation Heritage License Plate today. You may direct your contributions to the area of conservation you care most about, including shooting ranges and wildlife habitat improvements. For more information, visit www.mochf.org or call 1-800-227-1488.



Turkey Seasons

Youth Spring Turkey Hunting Season

Who May Participate:

The youth hunter must be:

- ▶ age 6–15 on opening day

Season Dates: March 31–April 1, 2012

Shooting Hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset Central Daylight Time

Valid Permits:

Youth hunters must possess any one of the three following permits:

- ▶ **Resident Spring Turkey Hunting Permit**
- ▶ **Resident Landowner Spring Turkey Hunting Permit**
- ▶ **Nonresident Spring Turkey Hunting Permit**

Note: Landowner permits are valid only on the land for which they are issued. See Page 6 for qualifications.

Youth Season Limit: One male turkey or turkey with visible beard.

Note: Youths who take a turkey during the youth season may not harvest a second bird until April 23. This is because the bird taken during the youth season counts as the first bird for the first week of the regular season.

Regular Spring Turkey Hunting Season

Season Dates: April 16–May 6, 2012

Shooting Hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1 p.m. Central Daylight Time

Valid Permits:

- ▶ **Resident Spring Turkey Hunting Permit**
- ▶ **Resident Landowner Spring Turkey Hunting Permit**
- ▶ **Nonresident Spring Turkey Hunting Permit**

Season Limit: Two male turkeys or turkeys with visible beard may be taken during the season, with the following restrictions:

- ▶ You may take only one turkey during the first week from April 16–22.
- ▶ If you do not take one during the first week, then you may take two during the second or third week from April 23–May 6, but you may not take them both on the same day.

Note: If you hunt during a managed hunt, season limits still apply. See pages 16–17.

**Check your turkey by 10 p.m.
on the day taken.**

Hunter-Education Requirement

All hunters born on or after Jan. 1, 1967, and hunting with a Resident or Nonresident Spring Turkey Hunting Permit must complete an approved hunter-education program and display their card before they can purchase a firearms turkey hunting permit unless:

- ▶ They first purchase an Apprentice Hunter Authorization. See Page 6 for requirements.
- ▶ They are ages 6–15 and will be hunting with a qualified mentor. See Page 5.
- ▶ They failed to pass the hunter-education certification tests due to a developmental disability. See “What’s New” on Page 2.

Hunters do not need to show their hunter-education card if certification can be verified electronically. Most hunters who use the e-Permits System will have their certification verified online. If this is not possible, some hunters will need to contact the Department to provide proof of hunter-education certification. Once in the database, hunters won’t have to submit this information again.

A person must be at least 11 years old to receive hunter-education certification. Hunters using a Resident Landowner Spring Turkey Hunting Permit are exempt from the hunter-education requirement unless they were born on or after Jan. 1, 1967, and are mentoring a firearms hunter who is not hunter-education certified.

How Turkey Season Opening Dates are Set

The formula for setting spring turkey season strikes a balance between the biology of turkey reproduction and hunters’ desires for an earlier season, especially in southern Missouri. As a result, the season begins on the third Monday in April, which moves the average opening date up three days from what it was six years ago.

The youth season opens nine days before the regular season, except when that would make it fall over the Easter weekend. In those cases, the season begins the weekend before Easter.



OPERATION GAME THIEF

Remain Anonymous Reward Possible

Dial toll free 1-800-392-1111

General Information for All Spring Turkey Hunters

Wild turkeys may be pursued, taken, killed, possessed or transported only as outlined in this booklet. For complete hunting regulations, refer to the *Wildlife Code of Missouri*, available at www.sos.mo.gov/adrules/csr/current/3csr/3csr.asp.

Methods: The following are allowed during the spring turkey hunting seasons:

- ▶ A shotgun with shot not larger than No. 4
- ▶ A longbow, recurve bow or compound bow. Hand-held string-releasing devices, illuminated sights, scopes and quickpoint sights are allowed.

The following methods are prohibited:

- ▶ Shotguns capable of holding more than 3 shells in magazine and chamber combined
- ▶ Shot larger than No. 4 (in use or in possession)
- ▶ A bow fastened to a stock or other device that maintains the bow in a drawn position
- ▶ Any sighting device that casts a beam of light on the game
- ▶ Thermal imagery equipment or night vision equipment (in use or in possession)
- ▶ Recorded calls (in use or in possession)
- ▶ Use of dogs or live decoys
- ▶ Use of bait, which includes grain or other feed placed or scattered so as to attract turkeys. An area is considered baited for 10 days even after complete removal of the bait. A hunter can be in violation even if he or she did not know an area was or is baited. It is illegal to place bait in a way that causes others to be in violation of the baiting rule.

Voiding the Permit: Hunters who harvest a turkey must void their permit immediately by notching the month and day of harvest. See Page 20.

Tagging and Checking: All turkeys must be tagged immediately after harvest and checked by 10 p.m. on the day taken using the Telecheck system. See pages 20–21.

Safety Sticker Requirement: All hunters using a shotgun must affix the “Be Safe” sticker to the receiver of their gun so it will be in their line of sight when shooting. The sticker must be maintained on the gun while hunting. Stickers are available at permit vendors and Conservation Department offices.

Note:

- ▶ Any hunter who kills or injures a turkey must make a reasonable effort to retrieve and include it in his or her season limit, but this does not authorize trespass.
- ▶ It is a violation to wantonly leave, abandon or waste commonly edible portions of game.
- ▶ Anyone using a turkey call to assist another hunter must be properly licensed with either a filled or unfilled spring turkey hunting permit.



Feral Hogs

Feral hogs destroy wildlife habitat, compete with native wildlife for food, and spread diseases to people, pets and livestock. They are a menace that must be eradicated.

A feral hog is defined as any hog, including Russian and European wild boar, that is not conspicuously identified by ear tags or other identification and is roaming freely on public or private land without the landowner's permission.

It is illegal to release feral hogs on public land or on private land that is not fenced to contain them. If you see someone releasing hogs, report them immediately to your local conservation agent or call Operation Game Thief toll free at 1-800-392-1111.

The Conservation Department discourages anyone from hunting specifically for feral hogs because hunters' activities interfere with the Department's efforts to eradicate these pests. However, if you are afield for other game and encounter a feral hog, *shoot it on sight!* If you kill a feral hog on public land or on private land where you have permission to hunt, you are not liable if someone later claims to own the animal.

During the youth and spring turkey hunting seasons, to kill feral hogs you must:

- ▶ possess a valid, unfilled turkey hunting permit, and
- ▶ use only methods allowed for taking turkeys.

Note: Resident landowners on land they own and lessees on land they reside on may use any method to take feral hogs at any time without any permit.

If you see a feral hog, notify any of the following:

- ▶ Nearest Conservation Department regional office (see pages 8–15)
- ▶ State veterinarian's office at 573-751-3377
- ▶ USDA Wildlife Services at 573-449-3033.

With your help, we can eliminate these dangerous, destructive pests from Missouri.

2012 Spring Turkey Permits

Valid Permits

Check Page 3 to see which permit you need.

Resident Spring Turkey Hunting Permit

Age 16 and older \$17
Age 6–15 \$8.50¹

Resident Landowner

Spring Turkey Hunting Permit no cost; see Page 6

Nonresident Spring Turkey Hunting Permit

Age 16 and older \$190
Age 6–15 \$8.50¹

¹Youth age 6 through 15 are not required to be hunter-education certified. If the youth is hunter-education certified and hunting on a resident or nonresident spring turkey permit, he or she may hunt alone. However, if the youth is not hunter-education certified, he or she must be in the immediate presence of a properly licensed adult who has a valid hunter-education certificate card or was born before Jan. 1, 1967. The adult, however, may not hunt turkeys during the youth spring turkey season.

- ▶ “Immediate presence” means close enough for normal conversation, without shouting.
- ▶ “Properly licensed” means a valid filled or unfilled spring turkey hunting permit.
- ▶ “Adult” means someone age 18 or older.

Regardless of age, the youth must be capable of holding, aiming and shooting the firearm by him or herself.

Note: Resident landowners or lessees born after Jan. 1, 1967, accompanying youths on the landowner’s property or property on which the lessee is residing must be hunter-education certified.

Who may purchase resident permits?

- ▶ Any person who does not claim resident privileges in another state or country, and whose actual residence and legal permanent home address are both in Missouri, and have been for at least 30 days before applying for the permit. Owning real estate or attending a Missouri school does not in itself make you a legal resident.
- ▶ Missouri residents employed by the United States in the District of Columbia or serving in the U.S. armed forces. (Immediate family members who reside with them also may purchase resident permits.)
- ▶ All members of the U.S. armed forces residing in Missouri on permanent change of station status and immediate family members residing with them.
- ▶ Any honorably discharged military veteran having a service-related disability of 60 percent or greater, or who was a prisoner of war during military service; must carry certified statement of eligibility from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs while hunting or purchasing permits.

SUNRISE AT JEFFERSON CITY, MO. Central Daylight Time

SUNRISE		SUNSET	SUNRISE	
DAY	A.M.	P.M.	DAY	A.M.
MARCH			APRIL	
31	.....6:54	.....7:32	25	.....6:18
APRIL			26	.....6:17
1	.....6:53	.....7:33	27	.....6:16
16	.....6:31		28	.....6:15
17	.....6:29		29	.....6:13
18	.....6:28		30	.....6:12
19	.....6:26		MAY	
20	.....6:25		1	.....6:11
21	.....6:24		2	.....6:10
22	.....6:22		3	.....6:09
23	.....6:21		4	.....6:07
24	.....6:20		5	.....6:06
			6	.....6:05

This table is for Jefferson City and points on the same longitude north or south. For locations east, subtract one minute from the table for each 13 1/2 miles (airline) of distance. For locations west, add one minute for each 13 1/2 miles. Or, for the sunrise and sunset times anywhere in the United States, see the U.S. Naval Observatory website: www.usno.navy.mil/USNO/astronomical-applications.

- ▶ **New!** Any member of the U.S. military currently assigned as a patient to a Warrior Transition Brigade, Warrior Transition Unit or a military medical center; must carry orders showing assignment to a Warrior Transition Brigade or Warrior Transition Unit, or admissions verification to a military medical center while hunting or purchasing permits.
- ▶ Nonresidents who are registered students attending a public or private secondary, post secondary, or vocational school in Missouri and who live in Missouri while attending school; must carry evidence of a Missouri residence and student status while hunting. **Note:** Nonresident students who qualify for resident permits must purchase them at Conservation Department offices.
- ▶ Immigrants who possess an I-551 Resident Alien Card and who do not claim resident privileges in another state or country, and whose actual residence and legal permanent home address are both in Missouri, and have been for at least 30 days before purchasing a permit.

Purchasing Permits

You may purchase your turkey hunting permits beginning March 1 using any of the methods below.

- ▶ Over the counter from any permit vendor. Buy early to avoid long lines.
- ▶ By telephone at 800-392-4115. Use your credit card, and pay a \$2 surcharge. Allow 10 days for delivery.
- ▶ Online anytime using the e-Permits System at mdc.mo.gov/epermits. Use your credit card, and pay a \$1 surcharge. Print your permit at home and have it in hand immediately.

Note: No-cost resident landowner permits also are available. See Page 6 for details.

Resident Landowner Permits

No-Cost Resident Landowner Permits

All turkey hunters, including landowners and lessees, must have a valid turkey hunting permit. You qualify for no-cost spring turkey hunting permits if you are a Missouri resident age 6 or older, who:

- ▶ owns at least 5 acres, or
- ▶ leases and lives on at least 5 acres of land, or
- ▶ lives in the home with a qualifying landowner or lessee.

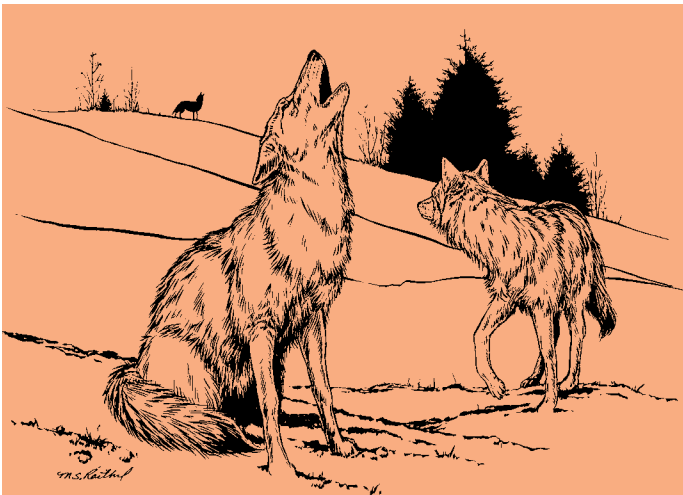
You may obtain your no-cost resident landowner permits beginning March 1 using any of the methods below.

- ▶ Over the counter from any permit vendor. Go early to avoid long lines. No surcharges will be assessed.
- ▶ By telephone at 800-392-4115. Use your credit card to pay the \$2 surcharge. Allow 10 days for delivery.
- ▶ Online anytime using the e-Permits System at **mdc.mo.gov/epermits**. Use your credit card to pay the \$1 surcharge. Print your permit at home and have it in hand immediately.

Please have on hand the following information:

- ▶ Your Conservation I.D. number, Heritage Card number, Social Security number or driver's license number
- ▶ The county where your land is located
- ▶ The number of acres you own or lease and reside on

Note: All landowner hunting permits are valid *only* on the land for which they are issued. You must purchase permits to hunt on land you do not own or lease and reside on.



Coyotes may not be chased, pursued or taken during daylight hours from April 1–15. They may not be hunted at all during the regular turkey season from April 16 through May 6.

Definitions for Landowner Permits

Resident landowner: Any Missouri resident who owns at least 5 continuous acres, or members of his or her immediate household. In the case of corporate ownership, only registered officers of the corporation and members of his or her immediate household can qualify to receive no-cost permits, and they are not required to reside on the land. People who own stock in a corporation (shareholders) do not qualify under this definition.

Lessee: Any Missouri resident who resides on and leases at least 5 continuous acres owned by others, or members of his or her immediate household.

Immediate household member: Someone, related or unrelated, who has lived in the home with a qualifying landowner or lessee for at least the last 30 days. Family members who live elsewhere do not qualify.

Note: Hunters must be at least 6 years old to obtain landowner permits.

Mentor Apprentice Hunters

To help introduce adults to hunting, the Conservation Department allows hunters age 16 and older who are not hunter-education certified to hunt with firearms, as long as they:

- ▶ first purchase the Apprentice Hunter Authorization for \$10;
- ▶ then purchase a firearms hunting permit for the season they want to hunt; for example, a Spring Turkey Hunting Permit; and
- ▶ hunt in the immediate presence of a properly licensed hunter 18 years old or older who is hunter-education certified. The mentor must have a filled or unfilled permit for the prescribed season. "Immediate presence" means close enough for normal conversation, without shouting.

Note: The Apprentice Hunter Authorization can be purchased twice and it allows the holder to obtain firearms permits throughout the permit year. After the second year, the apprentice hunter will be required to become hunter-education certified if he or she wants to continue hunting on a firearms permit.

Missouri is a leader in hunter recruitment, and the Apprentice Hunter Authorization is just one more tool to help you share your hunting knowledge and tradition with your friends and family. Encourage your apprentices to attend a hunter-education class or take the course online at **mdc.mo.gov/17844**.

A Good Hatch in 2011 Should Increase Turkey Numbers Throughout Missouri

In 2011, relatively dry conditions and an emergence of periodical cicadas that provided protein-rich food for nesting hens and growing poults helped Missouri's turkey population experience its best hatch in nearly a decade. Brood-survey results indicated that 2011's hatch was 42 percent above the previous five-year average. An especially notable improvement occurred in northeast Missouri where production was more than double the five-year average. In many parts of the state, hunters have already noticed the difference a good year of production can make. Because hatch success drives changes in turkey abundance, several more years of good production would bolster the number of turkeys in the Show-Me State.

Transitional Times

Missouri's turkey population has undergone a transition during the past several decades. When the population was expanding rapidly in the 1970s and 80s, people often reported seeing flocks of turkeys that numbered in the hundreds. During this time, production was high because turkeys were taking advantage of vacant, prime habitat.

But, a basic ecological principle eventually caught up with Missouri's turkeys. As wildlife populations grow, factors that limit their size begin to exert an ever-greater influence. Habitats become crowded, predators find easier pickings (which leads to more predators), and diseases spread quicker. By increasing deaths, decreasing production, or doing both, each limiting factor helps put the brakes on an expanding population. Missouri's wild turkeys were no exception. Although the 2011 hatch should certainly increase turkey numbers, and the potential for continued population growth exists, it's unlikely turkey numbers will increase to the peaks seen in the 1980s. Many factors that affect wild turkey abundance have changed over the past several decades.



NOPPADOL PAOTHONG

As a result, hunters should expect year-to-year fluctuations in turkey numbers that stem from variations in reproductive success.

Wild turkey populations are dynamic. With persistently poor spring weather—at least from a turkey's standpoint—turkey numbers can be expected to decline. With several years of good weather and production, turkey numbers can rebound. Thus, a sizable turkey population can occur in the same area where numbers were down just a few years earlier. Although Missouri's wild turkey population is not likely to reach the levels observed in the 1980s, a few more years of good spring weather and production should lead to a substantial increase in the number of turkeys on the landscape.

A Comprehensive Approach to Wild Turkey Management

The Conservation Department uses a comprehensive approach to manage Missouri's turkey population. In addition to analyzing harvest data, turkey brood surveys and archer wild turkey

observation surveys are conducted each year to monitor population trends. Thousands of hunters also are surveyed annually to obtain data on hunter opinions, success and satisfaction. Each year, turkey hunting regulations are reviewed by both the Department's Regulations Committee and the Conservation Commission. Decisions are based upon both science and public input. The Department's approach to harvest management strikes a balance between providing opportunities for hunters to enjoy the resource and ensuring harvest is within the limits of what the turkey population can sustain.

The Department sets spring turkey season to begin after most hen turkeys have already mated. Because of this and the fact that male turkeys represent 99 percent of the harvest, spring hunting is not a limiting factor on population growth.

Although a portion of the fall harvest consists of female turkeys, fall hunting has not led to declining turkey numbers. Fall hunters currently harvest only a small percentage of the turkey population. The 2011 fall firearms harvest of just over 7,000 turkeys represents less than 2 percent of the state's turkey population.

Missouri's Wild Turkey Population Remains Strong

Although a good hatch in 2011 will result in an abundance of jakes in 2012, the poor hatches of 2007–2010 will continue to make finding mature gobblers more challenging than in past years. Missouri is still widely recognized as offering some of the nation's best turkey hunting. Each year, Missouri's turkey harvest and hunter success rates are among the highest in the country. Missouri's wild turkey population remains strong, and although this year's harvest is not likely to top harvests of the early 2000s, hunters can expect great hunting opportunities during the 2012 spring season.

Turkey Hunting Regulations on Areas Managed or Owned by the Conservation Department

This table is intended to inform hunters of opportunities for hunting wild turkeys on public land managed or owned by the Conservation Department.

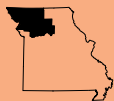
Turkey hunting is only allowed on Department areas that are listed in the chart. If an area that is owned or managed by the Conservation Department is not listed, turkey hunting is not allowed. For hunting opportunities on public land that is not owned or managed by the Conservation Department, contact the appropriate agency.

For maps and more details of areas listed on the following pages, contact the regional office or go to the website listed on the inside front cover.

Regulation key for chart

1. Statewide turkey seasons and limits apply.
2. Only archery methods may be used. Turkey hunting with firearms is prohibited. All other statewide turkey seasons and limits apply.
3. Only nontoxic shot may be used on this area.
4. Managed hunt. See pages 16–17 for details.

NORTHWEST



816-271-3100

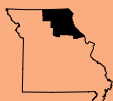
Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Agency	Buchanan	✓			
Aspinwall Bend	Atchison	✓			
Bagley Woods ¹	Mercer	✓			
Belcher Branch Lake	Buchanan	✓			
Bilby Ranch Lake	Nodaway	✓			
Bluffwoods	Buchanan	✓			
Bonanza	Caldwell	✓			
Brickyard Hill	Atchison	✓			
Brown (Bob)	Holt	✓		✓	
Bunch Hollow	Carroll	✓			
Chloe Lowry Marsh	Mercer	✓			
Christie	Andrew	✓			
Corning	Atchison, Holt	✓			
Crooked River	Ray	✓			
Dalton Bottoms Access	Chariton	✓			
Davis Memorial	Andrew	✓			
Denton Access	Gentry	✓			

¹This area is landlocked. You must get permission from landowner to gain access.

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Deroin Bend	Atchison, Holt	✓			
Dupree Memorial	Buchanan	✓			
Elam Bend	Gentry	✓			
Elrod Mill Access	Andrew	✓			
Floyd Memorial	Chariton	✓			
Fountain Grove	Linn, Livingston	✓		✓	
Gallatin	Daviess	✓			
Grand Pass	Saline	✓		✓	
Grand Trace	Harrison	✓			
Hadorn Bridge Access	Andrew	✓			
Happy Holler Lake	Andrew	✓			
Hardin	Ray	✓			
Helton Memorial	Harrison	✓			
Holmes Bend Access	Daviess	✓			
Honey Creek	Andrew	✓			
Jamesport Community Lake	Daviess		✓		
King Lake	DeKalb, Gentry	✓			
Kneib Memorial	Buchanan	✓			
Lake Paho	Mercer	✓			
Little Compton Lake	Carroll	✓			
Little Tarkio Prairie	Holt	✓			
Logan Memorial	Buchanan	✓			
Lotts Creek	Harrison	✓			
Lower Hamburg Bend	Atchison	✓			
McClure	Mercer	✓			
McCormack	Holt	✓			
McKinny	Carroll	✓			
Mockingbird Hill Access	Grundy	✓			
Monkey Mountain	Holt	✓			
Mussel Fork	Linn, Macon	✓			
Nishnabotna	Atchison	✓			
Nodaway County Community Lake	Nodaway	✓			
Nodaway Valley	Holt, Andrew	✓		✓	
Pawnee Prairie	Harrison	✓			
Pigeon Hill	Buchanan	✓			
Pony Express Lake	Dekalb	✓			
Poosey	Livingston	✓			
Price Bridge Access	Chariton	✓			

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Punkin Center Access	Livingston	✓			
Riverbreaks	Holt	✓			
Rush Bottoms	Holt	✓			
Schifferdecker Memorial	Carroll	✓			
Seat Memorial	Gentry, Worth	✓			
Sowards Ford Access	Worth	✓			
Star School Hill Prairie	Atchison	✓			
Sterling Price Community Lake	Chariton	✓			
Sunbridge Hills	Buchanan	✓			
Tarkio Prairie	Atchison	✓			
Thurnau	Holt	✓			
VanDyke	Mercer	✓			
Wagner	Ray	✓			
Wiese ²	Chariton	✓			
Wolf Creek Bend	Holt	✓			
Worth County Community Lake	Worth	✓			
Worthwine Island	Andrew	✓			
Yellow Creek	Chariton	✓			

NORTHEAST



660-785-2420

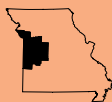
Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Anderson	Ralls, Pike	✓			
Arrow-Wood	Shelby	✓			
Atlanta—Long Branch Lake	Macon	✓			
Bee Hollow	Macon, Randolph	✓			
Big Creek	Adair	✓			
Black Hawk Access	Marion	✓			
Bollow	Shelby	✓			
Buck and Doe Run	Clark	✓			
Callahan Mound Access	Marion	✓			
Cedar Bluff Access	Monroe	✓			
Clark	Clark	✓			
Dark Hollow	Sullivan	✓			
Deer Ridge	Lewis	✓			
Dodd Access	Macon	✓			
Dunn Ford Access	Marion	✓			
Dupont Reservation	Pike	✓			
Elmslie Memorial	Marion	✓			

²Area is accessible by boat via Grand River or with permission from surrounding landowners.

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Ewing Lake	Scotland	✓			
Fox Valley Lake	Clark	✓			
Frost Island	Clark	✓			
Griffiths Memorial	Macon	✓			
Heath Memorial	Clark	✓			
Henry Sever Lake	Knox	✓			
Hidden Hollow	Macon	✓			
Hunnewell Lake	Shelby	✓			
Indian Hills	Scotland	✓			
LaBelle Lake	Lewis	✓			
Locust Creek	Sullivan	✓			
McPike Access	Marion	✓			
Mineral Hills	Putnam	✓			
Montgomery Woods	Adair, Macon	✓			
Morris Prairie	Sullivan	✓			
Mound View Access	Shelby	✓			
Neeper	Clark	✓			
Pin Oak	Shelby	✓			
Ranacker	Pike	✓			
Ray Memorial	Marion		✓		
Rebel's Cove	Putnam, Schuyler	✓			
Redman	Macon	✓			
Rocky Hollow	Monroe	✓			
Rose Pond	Clark	✓			
Sears Community Lake	Sullivan	✓			
Shanks	Pike	✓		✓	
Shoemaker	Adair	✓			
Soulard Access	Marion	✓			
Sugar Creek	Adair	✓			
Sunnyside School Access	Lewis	✓			
Sunrise Access	Marion	✓			
Thomas Hill Reservoir	Macon	✓			
Tolona Access	Lewis	✓			
Union Ridge	Adair, Putnam, Sullivan	✓			
Upper Mississippi—Angle, Blackbird, Blackburn, Ducher, Gilbert, Mozier, North, Pharrs and South Fritz islands	Pike	✓			
Upper Mississippi—Bay Island	Marion	✓			
Upper Mississippi—Cottonwood Island	Lewis	✓			

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Upper Mississippi— Fabius, Orton, Poage, Whitney, Ziegler islands	Marion	✓			
White Oak Bend Access	Knox	✓			
Willingham Memorial	Monroe	✓			
Woodlawn Access	Monroe	✓			
Wyaconda Crossing	Lewis	✓			

KANSAS CITY



816-622-0900

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Amarugia Highland	Cass	✓			
Balltown Access	Vernon	✓			
Baltimore Bend	Lafayette	✓			
Big Buffalo Creek	Benton, Morgan	✓			
Big Drywood Creek	Vernon	✓			
Birdsong	St. Clair	✓			
Blackjack Access	St. Clair	✓			
Brickley Hollow Access	Benton	✓			
Bridger Urban	Jackson		✓		
Bristow	Vernon	✓			
Brun's Tract	Pettis	✓			
Bryson's Hope	Pettis	✓			
Cephas Ford Access	Vernon	✓			
Chapel View Prairie	Henry	✓			
Cooley Lake	Clay	✓		✓	
Dave Rock	St. Clair	✓			
Dorsett Hill Prairie	Cass	✓			
Douglas Branch	Vernon	✓			
Edmonson Access	Benton	✓			
Ferguson-Herold	Lafayette	✓			
Fewel	Henry	✓			
Flight Lake	Vernon	✓			
Four Rivers	Vernon, Bates	✓		✓	
Gama Grass Prairie	Vernon	✓			
Grandfather Prairie	Pettis	✓			
Granny's Acres	Benton	✓			
Grove Memorial	Lafayette	✓			
Harmony Mission Lake	Bates	✓			
Hartwell	Pettis	✓			
Hazel Hill Lake	Johnson	✓			
Hi Lonesome Prairie	Benton	✓			
Ionia Ridge	Benton	✓			
Kahrs-Boger Park	Pettis	✓			

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
J.N. "Turkey" Kearn Memorial Units 1,2	Pettis, Johnson	✓			
J.N. "Turkey" Kearn Memorial Unit 3	Pettis, Johnson	✓			
W.R. Kearn	Pettis	✓			
Kendzora	Buchanan, Platte	✓			
Kings Prairie Access	St. Clair	✓			
Ladue Bottoms	Henry	✓			
Liberty Bend	Clay	✓			
Linscomb	St. Clair	✓			
Little Bean Marsh	Platte	✓		✓	
Lone Jack Lake	Jackson	✓			
Lost Valley Fish Hatchery	Benton	✓			
Maple Leaf Lake	Lafayette	✓			
Marshall	Platte	✓			
Montrose	Henry	✓		✓	
Mora	Benton	✓			
Mount Hulda Towersite	Benton	✓			
Old Town Access	Bates	✓			
Osage Prairie	Vernon	✓			
Paint Brush Prairie	Pettis	✓			
Park, Guy B.	Platte	✓			
Parma Woods Range & Training Center—North of powerlines only	Platte	✓			
Peabody	Bates	✓			
Perry Memorial	Saline, Pettis, Johnson	✓			
Platte Falls	Platte	✓			
Poague	Henry	✓			
Ripgut Prairie	Bates	✓			
Schell-Osage	Vernon, St. Clair	✓		✓	
Settle's Ford	Bates, Cass	✓		✓	
Sni-A-Bar	Lafayette	✓			
Taberville Prairie	St. Clair	✓			
Truman Reservoir— Bethlehem	Henry	✓			
Truman Reservoir— Brownington	Henry	✓			
Truman Reservoir— Brush Creek	Benton	✓			
Truman Reservoir— Cedar Creek	Henry	✓			
Truman Reservoir— Cross Timbers	Hickory	✓			

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Truman Reservoir—Deepwater Creek	Henry	✓			
Truman Reservoir—Gallinipper Creek	St. Clair	✓			
Truman Reservoir—Gouge Eye	Henry	✓			
Truman Reservoir—Grand River Bottoms	Henry	✓			
Truman Reservoir—Leesville	Henry	✓			
Truman Reservoir—Little Pomme de Terre	Benton	✓			
Truman Reservoir—Little Tebo Creek	Benton	✓			
Truman Reservoir—Sac-Osage	St. Clair	✓			
Truman Reservoir—Salt Creek	St. Clair	✓			
Truman Reservoir—Tebo Islands	Benton	✓			
Truman Reservoir—Upper Tebo Creek	Henry	✓			
Truman Reservoir—Valhalia	St. Clair	✓			
Truman Reservoir—Weaubleau Creek	St. Clair	✓			
Urich	Henry	✓			
Wah-Kon-Tah Prairie—north of Highway 82	St. Clair	✓			

CENTRAL



573-884-6861

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Ben Branch Lake	Osage	✓			
Bennitt, Rudolf	Boone, Howard, Randolph	✓			
Blind Pony Lake	Saline	✓			
Blue Lick	Saline	✓			
Branch Towersite	Camden	✓			
Bruns Access	Osage	✓			
Burnt Mill Cave	Camden	✓			
Canaan	Gasconade	✓			
Carpenter Memorial	Morgan	✓			
Clifty Creek	Maries	✓			
Cooper Hill	Osage	✓			
Danville	Montgomery	✓			
Danville—Baldwin Annex	Montgomery	✓			

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Danville—Thornhill & Schulze Annex	Montgomery	✓			
Davisdale	Howard	✓			
Diana Bend	Howard	✓			
Diggs	Audrain	✓			
Eagle Bluffs	Boone	✓		✓	
Earthquake Hollow	Callaway	✓			
Fiery Fork	Camden	✓			
Franklin Island	Howard	✓			
Gale Access	Camden	✓			
Grand Bluffs	Montgomery	✓			
Hart Creek	Boone	✓			
Hite Prairie	Morgan	✓			
Honey Creek Access	Cole	✓			
Hungry Mother	Howard	✓			
Lamine River	Cooper, Morgan	✓			
Lick Creek	Boone	✓			
Little Dixie Lake	Callaway	✓			
Loutre Lick Access	Montgomery	✓			
Lowe	Audrain	✓			
Madden Ford Access	Miller	✓			
Manito Lake	Morgan, Moniteau	✓			
Mansfield	Camden	✓			
Marion Bottoms	Cole, Moniteau	✓			
Marshall Junction	Saline	✓			
Moniteau Creek	Howard	✓			
Moores Mill Access	Callaway	✓			
Northcutt Memorial	Audrain	✓			
Painted Rock	Osage	✓			
Pikes Camp Access	Cole	✓			
Plowboy Bend	Moniteau	✓			
Prairie Home	Moniteau, Cooper	✓			
Proctor Towersite	Morgan	✓			
Reform	Callaway	✓			
Rinquelin Trail Community Lake	Maries	✓			
Rocky Fork Lakes	Boone	✓			
Rocky Mount Towersite	Miller	✓			
Saline Valley	Miller	✓			
Scrivner Road	Cole	✓			
Smith	Moniteau, Cole	✓			
Smoky Waters	Osage, Cole	✓			
Spring Creek Gap	Maries	✓			

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Stringtown Bridge Access	Cole	✓			
Tate Island	Callaway	✓			
Three Creeks	Boone	✓			
Toronto Springs	Camden	✓			
Tri-City Community Lake	Boone	✓			
Vandalia Community Lake	Audrain	✓			
Waters & Moss Memorial	Boone		✓		
Wellsville Lake	Montgomery	✓			
Whetstone Creek	Callaway	✓			
White	Audrain	✓			
Wigwam School Access	Morgan	✓			
Wilson Camp Access	Miller	✓			

ST. LOUIS



636-441-4554

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Anderson Memorial	Crawford	✓			
August A. Busch	St. Charles				✓
Blue Springs Creek	Crawford	✓			
Bootleg Access	Washington	✓			
Catawissa	Franklin	✓			
Crooked Creek	Crawford	✓			
Cuivre Island— Island portion only	Lincoln, St. Charles	✓			
Cuivre Island— Mainland portion	Lincoln, St. Charles	✓			
Daniel Boone	Warren	✓			
Howell Island	St. Charles	✓			
Hughes Mountain	Washington	✓			
Huzzah	Crawford	✓			
Kessler Memorial	Lincoln	✓			
Keysville Towersite	Crawford	✓			
Kingston Access	Washington	✓			
LaBarque Creek	Jefferson	✓			
Leach Memorial	Lincoln	✓		✓	
Little Indian Creek	Franklin, Wash- ington	✓			
Little Lost Creek	Warren	✓			
Logan	Lincoln	✓			
Long Ridge	Franklin	✓			
Meramec—All area except Wildlife Refuge ³	Franklin	✓			

³ Hunting is not allowed in the wildlife refuge.

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Meramec—Heynes Memorial Annex	Franklin	✓			
Merrill Horse Access	Jefferson	✓			
Pacific Palisades	Jefferson	✓			
Pea Ridge	Washington	✓			
Prairie Slough	Pike, Lincoln	✓			
Redhorse Access	Franklin	✓			
Reifsnider	Warren	✓			
River 'Round	Franklin	✓			
Sandy Island	Lincoln	✓			
Sizemore Memorial	Crawford	✓			
Upper Mississippi— Dresser Island	St. Charles	✓			
Upper Mississippi— Pool 26 Tracts	St. Charles	✓			
Upper Mississippi— Stag, Sterling, Westport islands	Lincoln	✓			
Valley View Glades	Jefferson	✓			
Victoria Glades	Jefferson	✓			
Vonaventure Memorial	Lincoln	✓			
Weldon Spring	St. Charles				✓
White Memorial	Lincoln	✓			
Young	Jefferson	✓			

SOUTHWEST



417-895-6880

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Barclay	Dallas	✓			
Bear Creek	Laclede	✓			
Bennett Spring Access	Dallas	✓			
Berry Bluff	Dallas	✓			
Bethel Prairie	Barton	✓			
Bluff Springs	Cedar	✓			
Bois D'Arc ⁴	Greene	✓			✓
Boston Ferry	Taney		✓		
Brush Creek	Polk	✓			
Buffalo Hills	McDonald	✓			
Buffalo Wallow Prairie	Barton	✓			
Bushwhacker Lake	Barton, Vernon	✓			
Busiek	Christian	✓			
Capps Creek	Newton	✓			
Charity Access	Dallas	✓			
Clear Creek	Vernon, Barton	✓			

⁴ Area is closed April 28–29 for managed hunt.

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Coffin Cave	Laclede	✓			
Compton Hollow	Webster	✓			
Comstock Prairie	Barton	✓			
Cowskin Access	McDonald	✓			
Cross Timbers Access	Hickory	✓			
Dale Sare	Greene	✓			
Davis Memorial	Barton	✓			
Deep Ford Access	McDonald	✓			
Diamond Grove Prairie	Newton	✓			
Dorris Creek Prairie	Barton	✓			
Drury-Mincy	Taney	✓			
Drywood	Barton	✓			
Fiddlers Ford Access	Dade	✓			
Flag Spring	McDonald, Barry	✓			
Fort Crowder	Newton	✓			
Goodman Towersite	Newton	✓			
Goose Creek	Laclede	✓			
Hayes Spring	Stone	✓			
Holland	Stone	✓			
Hollister Towersite	Taney	✓			
Horse Creek Prairie	Dade	✓			
Huckleberry Ridge	McDonald	✓			
Indigo Prairie	Dade	✓			
Jessie Hollow	Stone	✓			
Kickapoo Prairie	Lawrence	✓			
Lanagan Towersite	McDonald	✓			
Lead Mine	Dallas	✓			
Little Sac Woods	Greene	✓			
Mary Lawson	Laclede	✓			
Monegaw Prairie	Cedar	✓			
Mo-No-I Prairie	Barton	✓			
Mon-Shon Prairie	Barton	✓			
Mule Shoe	Camden, Hickory	✓			
Murphy Memorial	Hickory	✓			
Neosho Towersite	Newton	✓			
Niangua	Webster	✓			
Osage Fork	Laclede	✓			
Pa Sole Prairie	Barton	✓			
Paris Springs Access	Lawrence	✓			
Phenix Access	Greene	✓			
Pilot Knob	Stone	✓			
Pleasant Hope	Polk	✓			

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Pomme de Terre Lake Management Lands	Hickory, Polk	✓			
Powell Towersite	McDonald	✓			
Providence Prairie	Lawrence	✓			
Rader Access	Webster	✓			
Redwing Prairie	Barton	✓			
Risch	Barton	✓			
Roaring River	Barry	✓			
Rocky Barrens	Greene	✓			
Sentinel	Polk	✓			
Shawnee Trail	Barton	✓			
Sky Prairie	Cedar	✓			
Sloane	Dade	✓			
Stockton Lake—Big Sac Unit	Dade, Polk	✓			
Stockton Lake—Little Sac Unit	Dade, Polk	✓			
Stony Point Prairie	Dade	✓			
Stubblefield Access	Barry	✓			
Talbot	Lawrence	✓			
Tipton Ford Access	Newton	✓			
Treaty Line Prairie	Barton	✓			
Turkey Creek	Cedar	✓			
Twenty-Five Mile Prairie	Polk	✓			
Williams Ford Access	Dallas	✓			
Wire Road	Stone	✓			

OZARK



417-256-7161

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Allen Memorial	Wright	✓			
Angeline	Shannon	✓			
Barn Hollow	Howell, Texas	✓			
Barnes	Texas	✓			
Beaver Creek	Phelps	✓			
Birch Creek	Shannon	✓			
Bohigian	Phelps	✓			
Brown	Dent	✓			
Bull Shoals Lake	Ozark	✓			
Buzzard Bluff Access	Wright	✓			
Cabool Towersite	Texas	✓			
Caney Mountain—outside fenced area	Ozark	✓			
Caney Mountain—inside fenced area	Ozark				✓

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Carter Creek	Carter	✓			
Cedar Gap	Wright	✓			
Cedar Grove	Dent	✓			
Clement Memorial Forest	Dent	✓			
Cover Memorial	Oregon	✓			
Cover Prairie	Howell	✓			
Davidson-Paris	Howell	✓			
Davis	Howell	✓			
Dixon Towersite	Pulaski	✓			
Eck	Texas	✓			
Fort Leonard Wood Towersite	Pulaski	✓			
Fourche Creek	Ripley	✓			
Fuson	Wright	✓			
Gasconade Hills	Pulaski	✓			
Gist Ranch	Texas	✓			
Grandin Towersite	Ripley	✓			
Horseshoe Bend	Texas	✓			
Houston Towersite	Texas	✓			
Hunter Towersite	Carter	✓			
Hyer Woods	Dent	✓			
Indian Trail	Dent	✓			
Little Black	Ripley	✓			
Little Prairie	Phelps	✓			
Massengill	Douglas	✓			
Midvale	Texas	✓			
Montauk Towersite	Dent	✓			
Mountain View Tower-site	Howell	✓			
Mudpuppy	Ripley	✓			
Norfork Lake	Ozark	✓			
Odin Access	Wright	✓			
Patrick Bridge Access	Ozark	✓			
Peck Ranch	Shannon, Carter	✓			
Piney River Narrows	Texas	✓			
Rippee	Douglas	✓			
Rocky Creek	Shannon	✓			
Rosati Towersite	Phelps	✓			
Rose Hill Towersite	Oregon	✓			
Roubidoux Creek	Pulaski	✓			
Sand Pond	Ripley	✓			
Shannon Ranch	Douglas	✓			
Short Bend Access	Dent	✓			

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Sunklands	Shannon	✓			
Tecumseh Towersite	Ozark	✓			
Thomasville Towersite	Shannon	✓			
Timber Knob Towersite	Ozark	✓			
Tingler Prairie	Howell	✓			
Twin Knobs Towersite	Douglas	✓			
Vanderhoef Memorial	Howell	✓			
Vera Cruz Access	Douglas	✓			
Warm Fork	Oregon	✓			
White State Forest Nursery	Texas	✓			
White Ranch	Howell	✓			
White River Trace	Dent	✓			
Woods Memorial	Phelps, Crawford	✓			

SOUTHEAST



573-290-5730

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Amidon Memorial	Bollinger	✓			
Apple Creek	Cape Girardeau	✓			
Aquilla Access	Stoddard	✓			
Big Cane	Butler	✓			
Bismarck	St. Francois,	✓			
Black Island— Stephen C. Bradford, Gayoso Bend, Desoto, Wolf Bayou units only	Pemiscot	✓		✓	
Buck Mountain ⁵	St. Francois	✓			
Buford Mountain	Iron, Washington	✓			
Carmichael	Butler	✓			
Cash Memorial	Dunklin	✓			
Cash Memorial— Largent Annex	Dunklin	✓			
Castor River	Bollinger	✓			
Cedar Mountain ⁵	Iron	✓			
Chalk Bluff Trail Access	Dunklin		✓		
Champion Springs ⁵	Reynolds	✓			
Clearwater	Reynolds	✓			
Clearwater Lake	Reynolds	✓			
Club Creek	Bollinger	✓			
Coldwater Access	Wayne	✓			
Coldwater	Wayne	✓			
Coon Island	Butler	✓		✓	

⁵ This area is landlocked. You must get permission from land-owner to gain access.

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Crowley's Ridge	Stoddard	✓			
Current River	Shannon, Reynolds, Carter	✓			
Donaldson Point	New Madrid	✓			
Duck Creek	Bollinger	✓		✓	
Duck Creek, Greenbrier Unit	Bollinger	✓		✓	
Duck Creek, Dark Cypress Swamp Unit	Bollinger	✓		✓	
Flatwoods	Wayne	✓			
Frisbee Cutoff Access	Dunklin	✓			
Funk Memorial	Iron	✓			
General Watkins	Scott	✓			
Gipsy Towersite	Bollinger	✓			
Girvin	New Madrid, Pemiscot	✓			
Grassy Towersite	Bollinger	✓			
Graves Mountain	Wayne, Iron	✓			
Hammer Memorial	Wayne	✓			
Hawn Access	Bollinger	✓			
Holly Ridge	Stoddard	✓			
Hornersville Swamp	Dunklin	✓			
Iron Bridge Access	Wayne		✓		
Ketcherside Mountain	Iron, Reynolds	✓			
Knob Lick Towersite	St. Francois	✓			
Lake Girardeau	Cape Girardeau	✓			
Little Whitewater	Bollinger	✓			
Logan Creek	Shannon, Reynolds	✓			
Lon Sanders Canyon	Wayne		✓		
Magnolia Hollow	Ste. Genevieve	✓			
Maintz Wildlife Preserve	Cape Girardeau	✓			
Marquand Access	Madison		✓		
Millstream Gardens	Madison	✓			
Oak Ridge	Stoddard	✓			
Old Plantation Access	Cape Girardeau	✓			
Poplar Bluff	Butler	✓			
Red Rock Landing	Perry	✓			
Riverside	Reynolds, Iron, Wayne	✓			
Sank	Bollinger	✓			
Seven Island	Mississippi	✓			
Seventy-Six	Perry	✓			
Sun	Butler	✓			
Sweetgum Access	Bollinger	✓			

Area Name	County	1	2	3	4
Swift Ditch Access	New Madrid	✓			
Thompson Ford Access	Madison	✓			
University Forest	Wayne, Butler	✓			
Wappapello Reservoir	Wayne	✓			
Warbler Woods	Dunklin	✓			
Wilhelmina	Butler	✓			
Yokum School	Wayne	✓			

Walk-in Hunting Areas

in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service

► Ava/Cassville/Willow Springs Ranger District:

- Carman Springs Area, Howell and Douglas counties;
- Dabbs Creek Area and Hercules Glades Wilderness Area, Taney County;
- Devil's Backbone Wilderness Area, Ozark County;
- Piney Creek Wilderness Area, Barry and Stone counties;
- Shell Knob Area, Barry County;
- Spring Creek Area, Douglas and Howell counties;
- Steam Mill Hollow Area, Douglas, Howell and Ozark counties;
- Thompson Hollow Area, Ozark County;
- Swan Creek Area, Christian County.

► Eleven Point Ranger District:

- Cedar Bluff Area, Carter, Oregon and Ripley counties;
- Compton Area, Ripley County;
- Irish Wilderness Area, Oregon County;
- Round Mountain Area, Shannon and Carter counties;
- Wildhorse Hollow Area, Carter County.

► Houston/Rolla/Cedar Creek Ranger District:

- Smith Creek Area, Boone and Callaway counties;
- Decker Cave Area, Pulaski County;
- Mill Creek Area, Phelps County;
- Pine Creek Area, Laclede County;
- Paddy Creek Wilderness Area, Texas County.

► Poplar Bluff Ranger District:

- Cane Ridge Area, Butler and Wayne counties;
- Otter Creek Area, Wayne County.

► Potosi/Fredericktown Ranger District:

- Bell Mountain Wilderness Area, Iron County;
- Clear Creek Area, Washington County;
- Crane Lake Area, Iron County;
- Peter Cave Hollow Area, Iron County;
- Rock Pile Mountain Wilderness Area, Madison County.

► Salem Ranger District:

- Scotia-Marcoot Area, Dent and Reynolds counties.

Maps are available from Mark Twain National Forest Headquarters, U.S. Forest Service, 401 Fairgrounds Road, Rolla, MO 65401, 573-364-4621, www.fs.usda.gov/mtnf.

Managed Spring Turkey Hunts

Hunt No.	Area Name	County	Date	Quota	Odds ¹	How to Apply
Archery (1 hunt—longbow, recurve bow or compound bow only)						
1	Caney Mountain CA ²	Ozark	April 16–22	30	43%	Online ⁸
Firearms (11 hunts—shotgun only)						
2	August A. Busch CA ³	St. Charles	April 16–19	40	11%	Online ⁸
3	August A. Busch CA ³	St. Charles	April 21–24	40	14%	Online ⁸
4	August A. Busch CA ³	St. Charles	April 27–30	40	23%	Online ⁸
5	August A. Busch CA ³	St. Charles	May 3–6	40	40%	Online ⁸
6	Caney Mountain CA ²	Ozark	April 23–29	30	35%	Online ⁸
7	Caney Mountain CA ²	Ozark	April 30–May 6	30	100% ⁶	Online ⁸
8	Current River SP ⁴ Mandatory pre-hunt orientation begins at 6 p.m., April 15.	Shannon	April 16–23	12	41%	Online ⁸
9	Weldon Spring CA	St. Charles	April 16–19	40	20%	Online ⁸
10	Weldon Spring CA	St. Charles	April 21–24	40	25%	Online ⁸
11	Weldon Spring CA	St. Charles	April 27–30	40	34%	Online ⁸
12	Weldon Spring CA	St. Charles	May 3–6	40	44%	Online ⁸
Youth-Only Firearms for Ages 11–15 (5 hunts—shotgun only)			Note: Hunter-education certification is required, see box on Page 17.			
13	August A. Busch CA ⁴ Mandatory pre-hunt orientation begins at 6 p.m., March 29.	St. Charles	March 31–April 1	15	29%	Online ⁸
14	Caney Mountain CA ²	Ozark	March 31–April 1	10	100% ⁶	Online ⁸
15	Smithville Lake COE ^{4,5} Mandatory pre-hunt orientation begins at 9 a.m., April 7.	Clay/Clinton	May 5–6	10	50%	816-858-5718
16	Weldon Spring CA ⁴ Mandatory pre-hunt orientation begins at 6 p.m., March 29.	St. Charles	March 31–April 1	15	50%	Online ⁸
17	Current River SP ⁴ Mandatory pre-hunt orientation begins at 6 p.m., March 30.	Shannon	March 31–April 1	12	NA	Online ⁸
Special Hunts for People with Disabilities ⁷ (2 hunts—shotgun only)						
18	Bois D'Arc CA ⁴ Mandatory pre-hunt orientation; begins at 8:30 a.m., April 7.	Greene	April 28–29	12	50%	417-742-4361
19	Smithville Lake COE ^{4,5} Mandatory pre-hunt orientation begins at 9 a.m., April 7.	Clay/Clinton	May 5–6	10	100% ⁶	816-858-5718

Key

CA = conservation area

COE = Army Corps of Engineers

SP = state park

¹ Odds of being selected to participate in a managed hunt are based on the success rates for last year's drawings.

² Managed hunt occurs in a designated area; statewide regulations apply outside of designated area.

³ Hunters permanently confined to a wheelchair may bypass the random drawing process but do not displace others in the random drawing. Permit requirements and bag limits apply. Send a request along with a supporting statement by a licensed physician

to: Managed Turkey Hunts, Missouri Department of Conservation, PO Box 180, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0180. Requests must be received by Feb. 29.

⁴ Do not apply for this hunt if you can't attend the mandatory pre-hunt orientation.

⁵ Youth and people with disabilities hunt concurrently.

⁶ Because odds are for the previous year's hunting season, 100-percent odds do not guarantee that you will be drawn for a hunt this season.

⁷ These hunts are for people permanently confined to a wheelchair.

⁸ Apply online at mdc.mo.gov/hunt/turkey.

Valid Permits: Resident Spring Turkey Hunting Permit,
Nonresident Spring Turkey Hunting Permit

Bag Limit: 1 male turkey or turkey with visible beard.

Note: A turkey taken at a managed hunt counts toward the two-bird season limit. For example, if you take a turkey during a managed hunt before April 23, you may not harvest another turkey during the first week of the regular season.

Hunter Quota: See chart on Page 16 for the number of hunters who will be drawn to participate in each hunt.

Odds: See chart on Page 16 for the success rate for last year's drawings.

How to Apply: See chart on Page 16 for method of application—either online or by phone.

When to Apply: Jan. 10–Feb. 29

Points to remember

- ▶ To participate in a youth-only managed hunt, you must be 11 through 15 years of age.
- ▶ To participate in a non-youth managed hunt, you must be at least age 11. You also must be hunter-education certified or exempt.
- ▶ If you cannot attend, another hunter cannot take your place. Only those hunters who applied and were drawn may attend.
- ▶ Some managed hunts require hunters to attend a mandatory pre-hunt orientation. If you cannot attend the orientation, do not apply.

Youth-Only Managed Hunts

The five youth-only managed hunts are for youth ages 11 through 15. Apply online for four of the hunts, and apply by phone for the Smithville Lake hunt. Unlike the regular hunt application, youth may apply only singly or with one other youth. Successful applicants will be notified by mail. Youths who apply for a youth-only hunt may not also apply for a “regular” managed hunt.

Hunter-education certification is required for all successful youth applicants. Minimum age to enroll in a hunter-education course is 11. Hunter-education certification is not required to apply for these youth-only managed hunts, but must be achieved before the pre-hunt orientation, or in the case of Caney Mountain, the actual hunt.

All youth hunters must have a parent/guardian/adult sponsor who will hunt with them. Department staff will attempt to find a mentor if the youth does not have one, but cannot guarantee a mentor for each youth hunter. The sponsor must attend the pre-hunt orientation if one is required. The sponsor must have hunter-education certification, unless the sponsor was born before Jan. 1, 1967.

Managed Turkey Hunt Application Worksheet

Hunt No.: _____

Method: _____

Location: _____

Date: _____

Hunter **Conservation I.D. number(s)** (nine-digit number on your hunting or fishing permit, or on the **back** of your Conservation Heritage Card below the bar code):

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

- ▶ If you have a hunter methods exemption, you may use a crossbow in an archery managed hunt.
- ▶ Individuals not drawn for a managed spring turkey hunt may not accompany a hunter who was successfully drawn.
- ▶ ATVs are prohibited on managed spring turkey hunt areas.
- ▶ Hunters may apply for only one hunt. They may apply for that hunt individually or as a group of two or three hunters. Those applying for a youth-only hunt may apply only singly or with one other youth.

To apply, complete the following steps.

Step 1: Designate one member of your group to either place a call or go online. That person **must** have ready the following information:

- ▶ The two-digit number for the preferred hunt.
- ▶ The nine-digit Conservation I.D. number of each hunter in the group. If you need an I.D. number, call 573-751-4115 during regular business hours to have one assigned. **Note:** A Social Security number is not the same as a Conservation I.D. number. Your Conservation I.D. number is located on your Conservation Heritage Card and on your permit.

Step 2: Complete the worksheet on this page **before** calling or going online so you will have all the information ready.

Step 3: Go online at **mdc.mo.gov/hunt/turkey**. If you have correctly entered all the required information, you will receive a message confirming your application. **Note:** If you are applying for a hunt at Smithville Lake or Bois D'Arc, call the appropriate number listed on Page 16.

To find out if you've been selected

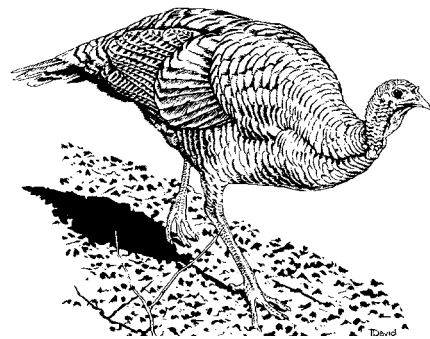
From March 14 through May 6, go online. Be prepared to enter your nine-digit Conservation I.D. number (the same I.D. number you used when you applied).

All successful applicants will receive by mail an area map and information regarding the hunt. We must have your correct address to send the information. If your address changes, call the Department during business hours at 573-751-4115.

How to Tell a Gobbler from a Hen

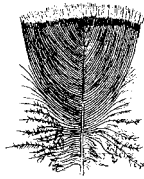
Large size, black body and long beard are marks of the gobbler. Hens sometimes have beards, but color, size and behavior distinguish them from gobblers. Hens are smaller, brown birds with blue heads. Bearded hens produce young and help increase the turkey population. They should not be killed, but any turkey with a clearly visible beard is legal in Missouri. Hens without beards are illegal to shoot.

HEN



Breast
feathers
buff-tipped

Female

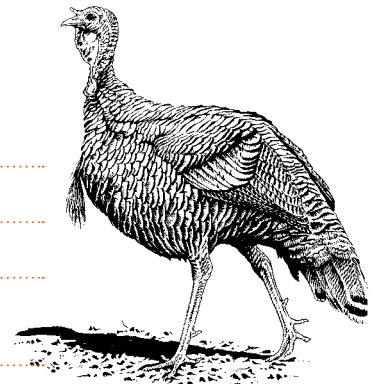


Male



Breast
feathers
black-tipped

GOBBLER

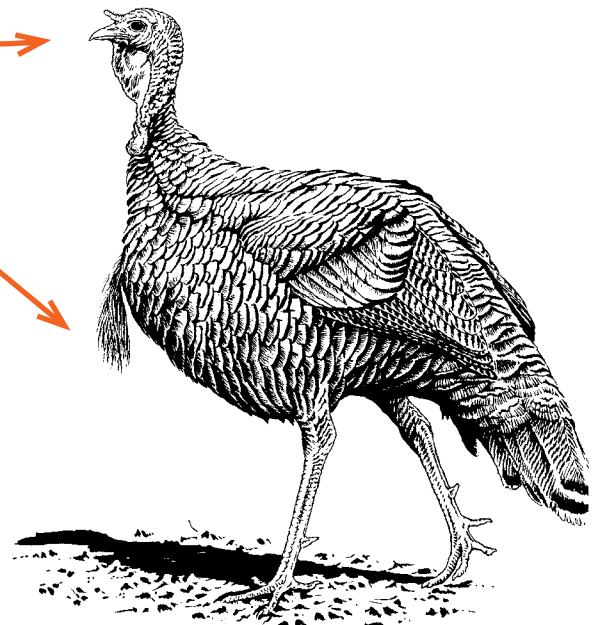


mainly blue	HEAD	mainly red
usually no beard	BEARD	long tassel-like
appears rusty	BREAST	appears black
no spurs	SPURS	usually 1/2 inch or more

JUVENILE GOBBLERS have spurs less than 1/2 inch long and a beard less than 6 inches long.

Basic Rules for Safe Turkey Hunting

- ▶ Identify a turkey's head and beard before aiming.
- ▶ Never shoot at sound or movement. Assume it is another hunter until you can clearly see a turkey's head or beard.
- ▶ Wear hunter orange when walking through the woods.
- ▶ Use hunter orange to identify your hunting location.
- ▶ Wrap a bagged turkey or decoy in hunter orange when transporting it.
- ▶ Dress defensively. Never wear red, white, blue or black while turkey hunting.
- ▶ Know the effective range of your gun.
- ▶ Be sure of your target and what lies beyond.



Using e-Permits

The Conservation Department's e-Permits System lets you buy hunting permits online, print them at home, and have them in hand immediately. You can even reprint lost or damaged permits for free. If you're not comfortable buying online, you can still purchase permits by phone, at any MDC office or from your usual vendor.

Learn more about e-Permits at mdc.mo.gov/epermits.

- ▶ E-permits were designed to be printed at home on regular paper. To prevent the paper from becoming unreadable, hunters are encouraged to keep e-Permits in a plastic sandwich bag while afield. This also will make it easier for hunters to write confirmation numbers on permits when Telechecking their turkeys.
- ▶ Turkey permits no longer include a removable transportation tag. Instead, the permit itself is the transportation tag.
- ▶ Each turkey permit has months printed along one edge and dates along another. Immediately after harvest, hunters must notch the month and day they shot their turkey, then attach the permit to the bird.



NOPPADOL PAOTHONG

The Conservation Department's e-Permits System lets you buy your permit online, print it at home, and have it in hand immediately. This gives you more time to enjoy afield.

- ▶ E-Permits are not printed on adhesive-backed material, so hunters will need to provide a way to attach them to their turkey. Hunters are encouraged to put e-Permits inside plastic sandwich bags and attach the bags to their turkeys with string, twist-ties, wire, plastic cable ties or tape.
- ▶ Traditional vendors will continue to print turkey permits on yellow permit stock, but without the adhesive transportation tag.
- ▶ Turkey hunters must still mark their guns with "Be Safe" stickers, which are available at permit vendors and Conservation Department offices.
- ▶ Turkey hunters must still check their turkeys by 10 p.m. on the day of harvest using Telecheck.

We Need Your Help!

Please participate in the Department's wild turkey brood survey.

The Conservation Department needs volunteers to participate in its wild turkey brood survey. Using cards provided, participants record observations of hens and poults throughout the summer. The information gathered is used to gauge the annual productivity of Missouri's wild turkey population.

It's easy to participate. Just send an email to jason.isabelle@mdc.mo.gov or call 573-882-9909, ext. 3291. Don't forget to tell us your name and mailing address. We'll send you three observation cards to record your turkey sightings on for June, July and August. At the end of each month, just drop the postage-paid card in the mail, and we'll take care of the rest.

Tagging and Checking Procedures

*Using turkey hunting permits couldn't be easier.
Just remember: **Bag it. Notch it. Tag it. Check it.***

STEP 1

Bag it. Protect paper e-Permits in a plastic sandwich bag while afield.



STEP 3

Tag it. Attach your notched permit to the turkey's leg. We recommend sealing the permit in a plastic sandwich bag and attaching the bag to the turkey's leg with string, twist-ties, wire or tape. You may now legally transport your turkey within Missouri.



STEP 2

Notch it. Immediately after bagging a turkey, notch the month and day of harvest on your permit.



STEP 4

Check it. Report your turkey by 10 p.m. on the day of harvest using the Telecheck instructions on Page 21. **Write the confirmation number** Telecheck provides on your permit. You may now process your turkey and transport it out of state.



Additional Tagging and Checking Information

- ▶ Until checked, turkeys must have the head and plumage intact.
- ▶ Notching voids the permit. Do not notch the month and day on your permit until you harvest a turkey.
- ▶ All turkeys must be checked before they are removed from Missouri.
- ▶ Only the person who harvested the turkey may possess and transport the turkey before checking.
- ▶ After checking, turkeys may be possessed and transported by anyone, but must be labeled with the taker's full name, address and Telecheck confirmation number.

How to use Telecheck: Phone & Internet Checking

All turkeys must be checked by telephone or on the Internet. No in-person checking stations will be available.

If using a cellphone, be sure you have a clear signal. If the signal is spotty, move closer to a major highway, go to higher ground, or wait until you get to a land-based line to call. Avoid calling in areas with loud background noise.

You do not need to call Telecheck immediately after taking the turkey. You can transport unchecked turkeys within the state as long as the permit is voided and attached to the turkey's leg. You have until 10 p.m. on the day of harvest to check your turkey.

To use the easy-to-use electronic checking system, follow the steps below.

Step 1: Before calling the toll-free number or going online, find your Telecheck ID number on your permit. If you have more than one permit, be sure you give the number of the permit you want to use. Also get a pencil or pen so you will be able to write your Telecheck confirmation number on your permit.

Step 2: Fill out the orange form to the right, which contains the same information you will be asked when you use Telecheck.

Step 3: Use a phone to dial the toll-free number below, then follow the instructions in the phone interview. Speak clearly and slowly. You can call between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m.

**To check a turkey, call
1-800-314-6828.**

**Or go to:
mdc.mo.gov**

Step 4: After you have provided the required information, you will be given an eight-digit confirmation number that verifies you have legally checked your turkey.
Write this number on your permit.

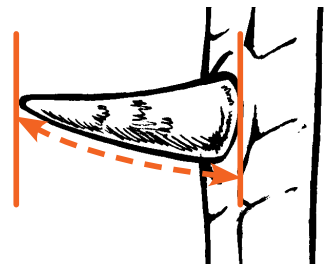
You have now completed Telecheck and can process your turkey.

Attention Cellphone Users

The most common reason hunters are unable to complete their Telecheck transaction is because of a poor cellular telephone connection. Signals that are weak, fade in and out, or clip speech will not work with the system. Once you've voided and attached your permit to your turkey, you have until 10 p.m. on the day of harvest to check the animal. Wait until you are out of the woods and receive a clear, strong cellphone connection before placing your Telecheck call.



How to Measure Spurs



Spur length measurements help biologists keep track of the age structure of the adult turkey population. Please accurately measure your turkey's spur before checking it. This will ensure biologists place your turkey in the correct age class. A difference in spur length of less than 1/8 of an inch can be important, so please take an accurate measurement. If you don't have a ruler, use the signature line of your permit, which is 2 inches long with a 1-inch mark in the middle.

Start at the outside center from the point where the spur protrudes from the leg scales, and measure to the tip of the spur.

▶ Your Telecheck ID number:

▶ Turkey type:

- ☐ Gobbler
- ☐ Juvenile gobbler (see Page 18 for how to identify a juvenile)
- ☐ Bearded hen
(see Page 18 for details on sexing a turkey)

▶ Spur length (gobblers only)

The signature line on your permit is 2 inches long (1-inch mark in the middle). Use it to measure the spur. See above for details.

- ☐ less than 1 inch
- ☐ 1 inch or more

▶ Beard length

Your permit is 6 inches long and should be used to measure the beard.

- ☐ less than 6 inches
- ☐ 6 inches or more

▶ County of harvest

Wildlife Code of Missouri—Turkey Hunting Regulations

3 CSR 10-7.455 Turkeys: Seasons, Methods, Limits

(1) Turkeys may be pursued, taken, killed, possessed or transported only as permitted in this rule.

(A) Spring Season. Spring season annually will begin on the third Monday in April. A person possessing the prescribed turkey hunting permit may take turkeys according to the season length and bag limit established annually by the Conservation Commission. Turkeys may be taken only by shotgun with shot no larger than No. 4, or bow, without the use of dogs, bait, electronic calls or live decoys, from one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise to 1:00 p.m. Central Daylight Time (CDT). Possession of electronic calls or shotshells loaded with shot larger than No. 4 is prohibited while hunting turkeys.

(B) Fall Firearms Season. Fall season annually will be October 1 through October 31. A person possessing the prescribed turkey hunting permit may take two (2) turkeys of either sex during the season. Turkeys may be taken only by shotgun with shot no larger than No. 4 or bow; without the use of dogs, bait, electronic calls or live decoys; from one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise to sunset in all counties except: Dunklin, McDonald, Mississippi, New Madrid, Newton, Pemiscot, and Scott. Possession of electronic calls, or shotshells loaded with shot larger than No. 4 is prohibited while hunting turkeys. A person, while in the act of pursuing or hunting turkey on a fall firearms permit, shall not have both a firearm and bow on his/her person with the following exceptions:

1. Any person who has been issued a concealed carry endorsement on a driver's license or non-driver's license and such endorsement or license has not been suspended, revoked, canceled, or denied may carry concealed firearms on or about his/her person while hunting.

2. Any qualified law enforcement officer or qualified retired law enforcement officer as defined in the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act (18 USC 926B or 18 USC 926C) may carry concealed firearms on or about his/her person while hunting.

(Firearms possessed under these exceptions may not be used to take wildlife while hunting with a bow. Proof of this exception must be carried while hunting.)

(C) Fall Archery Season. A person possessing the prescribed archer's hunting permit may take two (2) turkeys of either sex from September 15 through January 15, excluding the dates of the November portion of the firearms deer season. Turkeys may be taken only by bows and atlatl; without the use of dogs, bait, electronic calls, or live decoys; from one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise to one-half (1/2) hour after sunset. Possession of electronic calls is prohibited while hunting turkeys. An archer, while in the act of pursuing or hunting turkey on an archer's permit, shall not have a firearm on his/her person with the following exceptions:

1. Any person who has been issued a concealed carry endorsement on a driver's license or non-driver's license and such endorsement or license has not been suspended, revoked, canceled, or denied may carry concealed firearms on or about his/her person while hunting.

2. Any qualified law enforcement officer or qualified retired law enforcement officer as defined in the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act (18 USC 926B or 18 USC 926C) may carry concealed firearms on or about his/her person while hunting.

(Firearms possessed under these exceptions may not be used to take wildlife while hunting with a bow. Proof of this exception must be carried while hunting.)

(D) Youth Spring Season. The two (2)-day youth spring season will begin annually on the Saturday nine (9) days

Hunting Safety is No Accident

BE
SAFE

If you are involved in a firearms-related hunting incident, the law requires that you identify yourself and render assistance to the victim. Failure to do so is a Class A misdemeanor.

There were four nonfatal and one fatal firearms-related hunting incidents during the 2011 spring turkey season. As you will see, simple carelessness and failure to positively identify game can result in injury or death. Don't make the same mistakes these hunters made.

April 9—A 15-year-old boy, his 11-year-old sister and their adult mentor were sitting along a logging trail. When a turkey

approached, the adult told the boy to shoot. He wounded the turkey, which began to run away. As the boy stood up to take another shot, the adult said, "shoot it again." Both children fired, and the girl's shot struck her brother in the right arm.

April 10—A father and son were walking through a small clearing when the father saw what he thought was a turkey. Both hunters lay down on the ground, and the father told his son to shoot. The shot struck another father and son who were also hunting turkeys.

April 23—A man watched another hunter walk across an open field toward where he was hunting. To alert the

prior to the Monday opening of the spring season, except that when the youth season would overlap with Easter weekend the season will open on the Saturday prior to Easter weekend. Any person possessing the prescribed turkey hunting permit and who is at least six (6) but not older than fifteen (15) years of age on the opening day of the youth spring season may take only one (1) male turkey or turkey with visible beard during the youth spring season. A turkey harvested during the youth spring season will count towards an individual's spring season bag limit; individuals hunting under the prescribed turkey hunting permit may not harvest a second bird during the first week of the spring season. Turkeys may be taken only by shotgun with shot no larger than No. 4, or bow, without the use of dogs, bait, electronic calls, or live decoys, from one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise to sunset. Possession of electronic calls or shotshells loaded with shot larger than No. 4 is prohibited while hunting turkeys.

(2) Hunters who take a turkey shall void their permit immediately by notching the month and date of harvest. The voided permit shall be attached to the turkey. Turkeys may be possessed and transported only by the taker until reported through the Telecheck Harvest Reporting System. All turkeys taken shall be accurately reported through the Telecheck Harvest Reporting System by 10:00 p.m. on the day taken by the taker or in the taker's immediate presence. The Telecheck confirmation number shall be recorded immediately on the turkey hunting permit as indicated on the permit. The head and plumage of the turkey shall remain intact until the turkey is reported through the Telecheck Harvest Reporting System. All turkeys shall be reported through the Telecheck Harvest Reporting System prior to processing or being removed from the state.

(3) Bait shall mean grain or other feed placed or scattered so as to constitute an attraction or enticement to turkeys. An

area shall be considered baited for ten (10) days following complete removal of the bait.

(4) Each permit holder hunting with a shotgun shall first affix an approved safety sticker to the receiver of his/her gun where it will be in his/her line of sight when shooting, and maintain the sticker on the gun when hunting.

(5) A resident landowner or lessee as defined in 3 CSR 10-20.805, possessing a landowner turkey hunting permit, may take and possess turkeys in accordance with this rule on his/her land or, in the case of the lessee, on the land on which s/he resides and shall report the turkeys through the Telecheck Harvest Reporting System as required in this rule.

(6) Any person who kills or injures any wild turkey shall make a reasonable effort to retrieve the turkey and include it in his/her season limit.

(7) Turkeys (or parts thereof) reported in accordance with established procedures, when labeled with the full name, address, and confirmation number of the taker, may be possessed, transported, given away, and stored by anyone.

(8) In accordance with section 270.400, RSMo feral hogs (any hog, including Russian and European wild boar, that is not conspicuously identified by ear tags or other forms of identification and is roaming freely upon public or private lands without the landowner's permission) may be taken in any number during the spring firearms turkey season and youth spring season only by the holder of a valid, unused turkey hunting permit; and only by methods and times prescribed for taking turkeys. During the fall firearms turkey season, feral hogs may be taken only by the holder of a valid, unused turkey hunting permit or a small game hunting permit; and only by methods prescribed in Chapter 7 for taking wildlife, and without the use of bait. Other restrictions may apply on public lands. Resident landowners or lessees as defined in this Code may take feral hogs on their own property at any time, by any method and without permit.

approaching hunter, the man stood up, removed his mask and gloves, and moved from behind the tree where he was sitting. At this time the approaching hunter fired, shooting the man in the body. The victim fired two shots in the air and yelled, but the shooter ran away.

April 23—A hunter was gathering his gear after finishing turkey hunting. His gun was propped muzzle-up against a tree. When he reached for his gun, vegetation or a piece of equipment apparently snagged the trigger of the gun, causing it to fire. The shot struck the victim's head at point-blank range, killing him.

May 4—A hunter and his companion were calling in a turkey. The hunter heard what he thought was the gobbler clucking. When he saw what he thought was the red head of a strutting turkey, he shot, striking another hunter. The victim had walked down a logging trail, calling as he went, in an effort to ambush the same turkey the shooter had been working.

A person wearing camouflage clothing and a cap is aiming a rifle in a wooded area. Another person in camouflage is partially visible in the background.

ENJOY MORE TIME HERE

Ever have a lost or forgotten permit spoil your hunting plans? Not anymore. The Conservation Department's e-Permits System lets you buy online, print your permit at home, and have it in hand immediately. You can even reprint the permit if you lose or damage it.

Find out how to use and enjoy e-Permits at mdc.mo.gov/epermits
Then head to your favorite hunting spot!

Not comfortable with online purchases? You can still buy your fishing, hunting and trapping permits by phone, at any MDC office or from your usual vendor.

